

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP)
State Priority Plan

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

A. Program Background

The Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) is authorized under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 as amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and is established to provide additional financial assistance to States to encourage the long-term sustainability of non-industrial private forest (NIPF) lands.

This State Priority Plan sets forth the rules and procedures by which FLEP will be administered by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry (TDA, DoF) to promote sustainable forest management practices on NIPF land. The resource management expertise, and the educational and financial assistance provided under the program shall complement rather than duplicate or replace any existing state and/or federal programs providing assistance to NIPF landowners. Management activities and practices funded under this program shall be designed to provide multiple resource benefits, such as timber, wildlife habitat, clean water, stable soil conditions, and forest recreation.

B. Mission, Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

The mission of Tennessee's landowner assistance program is to *provide professional, timely, up-to-date science-based technical assistance to forest landowners*. Providing quality technical assistance is critical in reaching our goal of *increased sustainability of forest products and non-timber benefits on non-industrial private forestlands*. FLEP will address the economic, environmental, and social aspects of forest sustainability with the following objectives and strategies:

1. Objective - Increased NIPF acres under active management

- a) Strategy: Administer a cost-share incentive program using the options presented in FLEP
- b) Strategy: Utilize natural resource and other professionals to help deliver technical assistance

2. Objective - Increased public awareness of multiple forest values and management options

- a) Strategy: Conduct regional workshops for NIPFs
- b) Strategy: Develop new and utilize current technology based educational tools
- c) Strategy: Broaden the scope of State Forest demonstrations to better demonstrate multiple resource management

3. Objective – Better continuing education opportunities for natural resource professionals (NRPs) working with Non-industrial Private Forest (NIPF) landowners.

- a) Strategy: Implement NRP continuing education curriculum
- b) Strategy: Contract with appropriate agencies to provide continuing education opportunities to NRPs
- c) Strategy: Provide opportunities for collaboration/cooperation with other resource management professionals

C. Forest Resources, Concerns, Issues, Problems, and Threats Background

Baseline data on the forest resources of the State can be found in Schweitzer, Callie Jo. 2000. Forest Statistics for Tennessee, 1999. Resour. Bull. SRS-52. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 78p. A summary of forest resources,

concerns, issues, problems and threats can be found in the Tennessee State Stewardship Plan Fiscal Year 2002-2006.

II. DEFINITIONS

Definitions are the same as found in the Draft Interim Rules.

- *Capital Investment or Improvement*: Durable equipment or assets capable of being amortized or depreciated over a period of 3 or more years, not including activities or practices carried out as part of the FLEP cost-share element.
- *Catastrophic natural event*: Destructive, natural event, which includes, but is not limited to, wildfire, insect infestations, disease outbreaks, drought, floods, windstorm, freezing, ice storm, hail, sleet, mudslides, landslides, earthquakes, avalanches, tornadoes, volcanoes, hurricanes, or tsunamis.
- *Chief*: The Chief of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.
- *Committee*: The State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee.
- *Concurrence*: Review, verification, and confirmation, by the Responsible Official that the State priority plan contains all of the key elements required by law and the rules of this subpart.
- *Cost-share*: A payment, on a reimbursable basis, used to offset a maximum of 75 percent of the cost incurred by a landowner for implementation of a State approved activity or practice, authorized under FLEP.
- *Financial assistance*: Funds disbursed as an award by the Federal Government to an eligible party from the FLEP annual apportionment, in the form of money, including grants, agreements, contracts, and other arrangements.
- *Fiscal year*: The accounting period, used by the United States Government, from October 1 through September 30.
- *Landowner*: An individual, group, association, corporation, Indian Tribe or other legal private entity owning non-industrial private forest land or a person who receives concurrence from the land owner for practice implementation and who holds a lease on the land for a minimum of 10 years. Corporations whose stocks are publicly traded or owners principally engaged in the primary processing of raw wood products are excluded.
- *Management plan*: A written plan prepared by a natural resource professional or service representative and approved by a State Forester.
- *Natural resource professional*: Any person who is recognized by a State Forester as having the knowledge and skills to develop management plans, understanding of the economic and environmental interrelationships of forestry and/or agroforestry resources, and the ability to identify appropriate activities to manage, protect, or enhance such resources.
- *Non-industrial private forest land*: Rural lands with existing tree cover, or which are suitable for growing trees, and are owned by any private landowner, as defined above, so long as the landowner has legal decision-making authority over the lands.
- *Practice*: A prescribed, natural resource management activity consistent with a practice plan and implemented through FLEP, to enhance the multiple resource values and benefits and that results in improved conditions on non-industrial private forestland. A practice may consist of multiple components.

- *Practice plan*: A plan prepared by a service representative and approved by the State Forester that documents the specific practices that are to occur as a result of a landowner application for cost-share. A practice plan may be a stand-alone document or it may be a part of a management plan.
- *Responsible official*: Regional Foresters, Area Director, or Institute Director charged with the administration of the Forest Land Enhancement Program.
- *Service representative*: A natural resource professional as defined in this section and designated by a State Forester to perform any or all FLEP elements.
- *State*: Includes each of the States in the United States, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- *State Forester*: The director or other head of a State forestry agency or equivalent State official.
- *State priority plan (SPP)*: The document required from a State to participate in FLEP. A State Forester jointly prepares this plan with the State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee to facilitate long-term sustainability of non-industrial private forestlands within the State.

III. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

FLEP cost-share funding will be administered by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry using established policies and procedures. Additional organizational responsibilities for FLEP will be as follows:

A. The USDA Forest Service will:

1. Provide guidance and concurrence with the SPP
2. Distribute funding to States
3. Retain final authority to resolve issues which may arise

B. The Division of Forestry will:

1. Develop and maintain SPP to establish program priorities, policies, and procedures
2. Document State Stewardship Coordinating Committee (SSCC) program involvement
3. Administer FLEP funding
4. Monitor program progress
5. Report accomplishments to USDA Forest Service
6. Develop required Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) with associated agencies

C. The State Stewardship Coordinating Committee will:

1. Assist with the development of the SPP, along with review and final approval
2. Maintain records of SSCC program involvement through minutes and other process documentation
3. Monitor program progress via oral/written reports given at regularly scheduled meetings
4. Provide other State specific duties as required

IV. FLEP ELEMENTS

FLEP Resources shall be targeted to develop and implement educational programs, provide resource management expertise and technical assistance, provide financial assistance through cost-share programs, and administration costs. Allocations of program funds among these elements are targets that remain flexible throughout the year. Annual targets will be determined by consultation between the State Forester and the State Stewardship Coordinating Committee.

A. Financial Assistance (75%)

There are tremendous opportunities for forest landowners in Tennessee to improve their forestlands. Cost-share incentives have proven successful in motivating landowners to invest in a variety of forest resource conservation/management practices. The majority of funding will be

used to provide cost-share incentives to help landowners install forest and associated resource conservation/management practices and components that will provide the greatest impact to forest resource improvement.

B. Educational Assistance (10%)

Non-industrial private forest landowners control 79 percent of the timberland in Tennessee. As a result, NIPF landowners are the key to keeping Tennessee's forests productive and healthy. Many of these landowners are unaware of the important role they play in providing all Tennessee citizens with forest products, clean water, wildlife habitat, and natural beauty. Many of the state's NIPF landowners are equally unaware of the forest management opportunities available to improve and sustain these benefits. A portion of funds will be used to provide educational opportunities to foster an increased landowner awareness of forest values and management options.

C. Technical Assistance (10%)

Tennessee has motivated, well trained natural resource management professionals. FLEP will be used to maintain and increase the knowledge and skills of these professionals. A portion of funds will be used to take advantage of applicable continuing education opportunities to address resource management issues specific to Tennessee. Focus areas will include quality hardwood management, pine management, riparian zone management, game and non-game wildlife habitat management, water quality management, threatened and endangered species management, and exotic/invasive species eradication and control. All continuing education sessions will emphasize the role of active forest management relative to forest productivity, sustainability, and health.

For FLEP to be successful in encouraging better management of NIPF lands, forest landowners must receive site-specific recommendations. A portion of program funds will be utilized to pay for resource management professional's time to develop and help landowners implement such recommendations. Division of Forestry personnel time spent in developing and administering recommendations will be partially funded under FLEP. If the need arises, funds will also be used to contract for additional technical assistance with other state agencies or private consultants. The University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University Cooperative Extension Programs will be utilized to help encourage underserved landowners to seek technical assistance in managing their forestlands.

D. Administration Costs (5%)

Administering FLEP will impose additional costs to the Division of Forestry. A portion of funds will be used to help cover these costs.

V. COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE - ELIGIBLE PRACTICES

FLEP provides the opportunity to implement eleven practices. In Tennessee, FLEP practices were evaluated relative to addressing two situations: 1) complementing existing state, federal, or private programs and/or 2) establishing critical practices not offered under existing programs. Comments from the State Forester, an ad hoc sub-committee from the SSCC, the full SSCC and the public were used to establish the following eligible practices. Appendix A contains additional information relative to practice components and cost-share rates. (Note to reviewers: FLEP has a total of eleven potential practices. Based on other cost-share programs, feasibility of practice implementation, and other sources of funding, the Ad Hoc subcommittee of the SSCC that helped produce this draft did not recommend all FLEP practices. Practices highlighted in blue are the subcommittee's recommended practices).

A. Management Plan Development (FLEP-1): Development or revision of a management plan that must meet the minimum standards of a forest stewardship plan.

B. Afforestation and Reforestation (FLEP-2): Site preparation, planting, seeding, or other practices to encourage natural regeneration, or ensure forest establishment;

C. Forest Stand Improvement (FLEP-3): Practices to enhance growth and quality of wood fiber, special forest products, and carbon sequestration;

- D. Agroforestry Implementation (FLEP-4):** Establishment, maintenance, and renovation of windbreaks, or other practices using trees and shrubs in conjunction with agricultural land use, including practices for energy conservation and carbon sequestration;
- E. Water Quality Improvement and Watershed Protection (FLEP-5):** Establishment, maintenance, renovation and/or restoration practices including any necessary design and engineering to improve and protect water quality, riparian areas and/or forest wetlands and watersheds;
- F. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement (FLEP-6):** Establishment, maintenance, and restoration practices to create, protect, or improve fish and wildlife habitat, including any necessary design and engineering;
- G. Forest Health Practices (FLEP-7):** Establishment of practices primarily to monitor, assess, protect, improve or restore forest health; including detection and control of insects, diseases, and animal damage to established stands;
- H. Invasive Species Control (FLEP-8):** Establishment, maintenance and restoration practices primarily to detect, monitor, eradicate, or control the spread of invasive species;
- I. Wildfire and Catastrophic Risk Reduction (FLEP-9):** Establishment of practices primarily to reduce the risk from wildfire and other catastrophic natural events;
- J. Wildfire and Catastrophic Event Rehabilitation (FLEP-10):** Establishment of practices primarily to restore and rehabilitate forests following wildfire and other catastrophic natural events; and
- K. Special Practices (FLEP-11):** Establishment, maintenance, and restoration practices addressing other conservation concerns on non-industrial private forest lands as proposed by the State Forester and the Committee and approved by the Responsible Official.

VI. COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE - ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- A.** Eligible owners include private individuals; joint owners; corporations (except wood-using industries) without publicly-traded stock; and non-profit organizations and groups such as Boy and Girl Scouts, churches, and youth organizations. Ineligible owners include lands controlled by federal, State, and local governments; wood-using industries or entities that derive more than 50 percent of their gross income from wood-using industries; corporations with publicly-traded stock; public utility companies; and commercial campgrounds, commercial hunting preserves, and recreation areas.
- B.** FLEP applies to eligible landowners in every county of the State.
- C.** Landowners must have at least 10 acres available for management. No minimum size treatment area is required for participation in FLEP.
- D.** Landowners must agree to maintain FLEP practices for a minimum of 10 years.

VII. COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE - APPLICATION AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES

Cost-share assistance includes a wide range of activities and practices designed to meet program purpose and scope. All program activities shall be consistent with the Forest Land Enhancement Program law and regulations. Anyone who carries out practices under this Program shall be responsible for obtaining the authorities, rights, easements, or other approvals necessary to the performance and maintenance of the practices in keeping with applicable laws and regulations. Program procedures in Tennessee are as follows:

A. Application Procedure

1. Time Frame: Participants may apply for cost-sharing under FLEP at any time during the year. Applications, including a Management Plan, must be received at TDA, DoF Area Forester offices.
2. Management Plan: Landowners must have a Management Plan to apply for FLEP funding. The plan must describe practice component implementation as applied to those portions of the landowner's property on which any project or activity funded under the program shall be carried out. The plan must also address any additional lands of the owner that are affected by the activity or practice. Management Plans will be submitted with FLEP applications. State, private or industry foresters can write Management Plans. Management Plans must be submitted with other application papers through Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry Area Forester Offices.
3. Eligibility Determination: Once an application is made, TDA, DoF personnel will determine the eligibility of the landowner and the land and examine the participant's property. TDA, DoF personnel are also available to determine practice components and develop practice Management Plans. Completed applications will be forwarded to the Division's Management Chief.

B. Approval Process

The Management Chief will determine if sufficient FLEP funds are available to fund the request. The Management Chief will mail the participant a letter indicating whether sufficient funds are available and, if so, the amount allocated. When sufficient funds are unavailable, the participant will be advised that his/her request will be kept on file until funds become available. Cases waiting for funding will receive allocations based on the priorities established under Funding.

C. Funding

1. Allocation: Requests for FLEP cost-sharing will be approved for funding in order of the date of application on the FLEP Authorization to Vendor and Project Record form. To minimize the number of carryover FLEP plans, applications will no longer be accepted when funding becomes 95% obligated. Once 60% of the FLEP annual program allocation has been encumbered funding priority will be given based on the order listed below:
 - i. Forest Health Practices (FLEP-7)
 - ii. Water Quality Improvement and Watershed Protection (FLEP-5)
 - iii. Forest Stand Improvement (FLEP-3) hardwood practices
 - iv. Afforestation and Reforestation (FLEP-2) hardwood practices
 - v. Forest Stand Improvement (FLEP-3) softwood practices
 - vi. Afforestation and Reforestation (FLEP-2) softwood practices
 - vii. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement (FLEP-6)
 - viii. Agroforestry Implementation (FLEP-4)
 - ix. Special Practices (FLEP-11)
2. Cost-Share Rate: Landowners will be reimbursed at practice specific rates ranging from 50 to 75 percent based on average statewide costs for practices and practice components.
3. Funding Limitation: The maximum FLEP payment is \$10,000 per landowner per federal fiscal year. Maximum annual treatment area is 1000 acres or 5,000 treated acres with approved waiver exemption. Landowners who seek waivers should write a brief letter of request to the State Forester. The State Forester will then approve or deny the request.
4. Partial Payments: Partial payments for completed components are authorized if the timing of practice components occurs in two different administrative fiscal years. In such cases landowners must certify in writing to complete all remaining practice components within the time specified by the service representative.

5. Non-Federal Program Funds: Non-federal program funds and assistance may be used to supplement cost-share assistance; however, the total of all funds and assistance shall not exceed 100 percent of the actual cost of practice implementation.

D. Contract Length

Contracts will begin and end on the federal fiscal year. If a participant who failed to complete an approved project during the past planting season intends to install the practice during the following planting season, it will be necessary that he/she notify the Division Forester **before the service agreement expires** and request an extension. The Division Forester will review extension requests for applicability and grant new completion dates not to exceed one year past the end of a fiscal year. The Division forester will also review and, if necessary, amend the Management Plan.

E. Certification of Performance

1. Notification-Area Forester: The participant **must** carry out recommended components as prescribed in the Management Plan. The participant will be responsible for notifying the forester that the practice has been completed.
2. Verification: TDA, DoF personnel will revisit the participant's property, examine the treated area, make an accurate determination of the amount of acreage actually treated for each component, obtain cost documents from the participant, and complete and certify satisfactory completion of each component performed.

F. Payment

1. Notification-Management Chief: The forester will attach the participant's cost and labor documents to a copy of the application and mail them to the Division of Forestry's Nashville office, ATTN: Management Chief. Separate component payments are available as described under Funding – Partial Payments.
2. Notification-Fiscal Office: The Forest Management Chief will address a letter to the Department of Agriculture's fiscal office and request that a State warrant payable to the participant be drawn and mailed to the participant as reimbursement for the State's share of the cost of installing the practice.

VIII. COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE – PROHIBITED PRACTICES

The following practices are prohibited under FLEP:

- A. Costs incurred before an application for cost-share is approved in writing except as authorized by the State Forester, and those materials and items that may be purchased before practice approval as shown in the State priority plan;
- B. Repeated practices on the same site within the required maintenance period which have been implemented under any other Federal, State, or local government programs, or private sector programs, except where such practices are repeated due to a failure of a prior practice without fault of the landowner or recurring practices as noted in this subpart;
- C. Capital investments or capital improvements not related to FLEP practices, purchase of land or any interest in land, or any interest in an endowment;
- D. Practices associated with the development of or improvement to landowner nursery operations;
- E. Practices associated with the development of or improvement to nut and fruit orchards or Christmas tree plantings or maintenance; or
- F. Any practice that is not related to the long-term sustainability of non-industrial private forestlands or agroforestry activities.

IX. COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE – REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. FLEP cost-share activity will be reported by category as specified in the interim rule. Reporting will include practice planning and on the ground accomplishments.
- B. Records will be maintained on continuing education provided and personnel attending.

X. RECAPTURE OF COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE

Payments made to landowners may be recaptured under the following circumstances:

- A. If any landowner, successor, or assignee uses any scheme or device to unjustly benefit from FLEP. A scheme or device includes, but is not limited to, coercion, fraud or misrepresentation, false claims, or any business dissolution, reorganization, revival, or other legal mechanism designed for or having the effect of evading the requirements of FLEP. The financial assistance payments shall be withheld or a refund of all or part of any FLEP payments otherwise due or paid to that person shall be secured;
- B. If any landowner or successor takes any action or fails to take action, which results in the destruction or impairment of a prescribed practice for the duration of the practice, cost-share payments shall be withheld or a recapture of all or part of any FLEP payments otherwise due or paid shall be secured, based on the extent and effect of destruction and impairment; and
- C. If a landowner sells, conveys, or otherwise loses control of the land, except when determined by the State Forester to have been beyond the landowner's control, upon which there is a continuing obligation to maintain a practice, and the new landowner does not agree to assume the responsibility for maintaining the practice, the landowner who was originally obligated to maintain the practice shall be liable to reimburse the State(s) for all cost-share on such practices.
- D. Nothing in this section requiring the withholding or refunding of financial assistance payments shall preclude any penalty or liability otherwise imposed by law.
- E. Any landowner, successor, or assignee who is dissatisfied with any determination made under FLEP may request reconsideration by the State Forester and, if the matter is still not resolved, by the Responsible Official. All requests for reconsideration shall be in writing and shall contain factual information explaining the basis for requesting reconsideration. All decisions on reconsideration must be issued in writing.

APPENDIX A – TENNESSEE FLEP PRACTICES.

FLEP2 – AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION

Eligible Components: Landowners will be reimbursed for the following components at the level of 75 percent of actual cost (based on cost documents) not to exceed set maximum per unit amounts. Maximum cost-share amount for a FELP 2 practice is \$10,000. The following table indicates the maximum per unit amounts a landowner may receive for each component and its TN FLEP code.

TN FLEP CODE	COMPONENT DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM PER UNIT
	SITE PREPARATION - SOFTWOODS	
SPS	chemical post and pre planting site prep; includes site prep burning; eligible species include loblolly, white, and shortleaf pine; initial seedling stocking rates must be between 600 and 300 seedlings per acre	\$82.50 per acre cut-over timberland \$45.00 per acre agricultural/pasture land
	SITE PREPARATION - HARDWOODS	
SPH	chemical or mechanical site prep for artificial and natural regeneration including midstory and vine removal.	\$82.50 per acre natural regeneration and midstory removal \$45.00 per acre agricultural/pasture land
	PLANTING HARDWOODS	
PLH	planting hardwoods on applicable agricultural and pasture lands; eligible species include upland and bottomland tree species; sites must meet capability classes I, II, III, IV and IIW-IVW as defined by NRCS; initial seedling stocking rates must be between 435 and 300 seedlings per acre	\$130 per acre
	ROTARY MOWING - HARDWOODS	
RMH	rotary mowing to help facilitate site prep for artificial regeneration of hardwoods	\$11.25 per acre
	SUBSOILING - HARDWOODS	
SSH	required when planting hardwoods on former agricultural lands	\$18.75 per acre

FLEP3 – FOREST STAND IMPROVEMENT

Eligible Components: Landowners will be reimbursed for the following components at the level of 75 percent of actual cost (based on cost documents) not to exceed set maximum per unit amounts. Maximum cost-share amount for a FELP 3 practice is \$10,000. The following table indicates the maximum per unit amounts a landowner may receive for each component and its TN FLEP code.

TN FLEP CODE	COMPONENT DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM PER UNIT
	RELEASE - SOFTWOODS	
RS	chemical or mechanical release of pine stands between 1 and 10 years old; eligible species include loblolly, white, and shortleaf pine; initial seedling stocking rates must be between 600 and 300 seedlings per acre	\$82.50 per acre
	RELEASE - HARDWOODS	
RH	chemical or mechanical release of hardwood stands between 1 and 10 years old; eligible species include upland and bottomland tree species	\$82.50 per acre

FLEP4 – AGROFORESTRY IMPLEMENTATION

Eligible Components: Landowners will be reimbursed for the following components at the level of 75 percent of actual cost (based on cost documents) not to exceed set maximum per unit amounts. Maximum cost-share amount for a FELP 4 practice is \$5,000. The following table indicates the maximum per unit amounts a landowner may receive for each component and its TN FLEP code.

TN FLEP CODE	COMPONENT DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM PER UNIT
	SITE PREPARATION - HARDWOODS	
SPH	chemical or mechanical site prep for planting a mix of black walnut seedlings and black walnut quality nut cultivars in combination with agronomic crops	9.00 per acre
	PLANTING HARDWOODS	
PLH	planting a 50/50 mix of black walnut seedlings and black walnut quality nut cultivars in two-row strips in combination with 100-foot agronomic crop alleyways; trees will be planted on 12 x 12-foot spacing.; sites must meet capability classes I, II, or, IV as defined by NRCS; initial tree stocking rates will be 60 trees per acre	\$351 per acre

FLEP5 – WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND WATERSHED PROTECTION

Eligible Components: Landowners will be reimbursed for the following components at the level of 75 percent of actual cost (based on cost documents) not to exceed set maximum per unit amounts. Maximum cost-share amount for a FELP 5 practice is \$5,000. The following table indicates the maximum per unit amounts a landowner may receive for each component and its TN FLEP code.

TN FLEP CODE	COMPONENT DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM PER UNIT
	CONTROL OF SURFACE WATER	
CSW	reshaping roads/skid trails, draining water holes, erosion control structures construction, and seed bed scarification; not intended for establishing new or reworking existing roads for vehicular traffic	\$487.50 per acre
	PLANTING GRASSES AND LEGUMES	
PGL	plant seed mixtures appropriate for stabilization of disturbed areas and, where applicable, provide habitat for featured wildlife species	\$55.50 per acre
	NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	
NM	application of lime and fertilizer at rates recommended by Division of Forestry, Tennessee Wildlife resources Agency, NRCS, or UT Extension	\$94.50 per acre
	MULCHING	
MCH	application of appropriate mulch to protect seeded areas from heat and moisture extremes	\$130.00 per acre

FLEP6 – WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT

Eligible Components: Landowners will be reimbursed for the following components at the level of 75 percent of actual cost (based on cost documents) not to exceed set maximum per unit amounts. Maximum cost-share amount for a FELP 6 practice is \$10,000. The following table indicates the maximum per unit amounts a landowner may receive for each component and its TN FLEP code.

TN FLEP CODE	COMPONENT PRACTICE	MAXIMUM PER UNIT
	PRESCRIBED BURNING IN PINES	
PB	burning in southern yellow pines to reduce fuel build up, kill understory vegetation, and encourage sprouting of herbaceous vegetation	Minimum fee: \$50.00 Less than 50 acres: \$10.00/ac 51 to 100 acres: \$7.50/ac 101 to 250 acres: \$5.00/ac More than 250 acres: \$3.50/ac
	THINNING PINE STANDS	
TP	Pre commercial thinning of over stocked pine stands to appropriate residual basal area. Eligible stands include overstocked natural stands or planted pine stands with competing natural pine regeneration	\$82.50 per acre
	CREATION OF FOREST OPENINGS	
FO	clearing of trees and woody brush to establish permanent wildlife openings; openings must be at least ½ acre in size but not larger than 4 acres; linear wildlife openings as rights-of-ways along forest roads or revegetated sections of closed forest roads can be greater than 4 acres; seed mixtures appropriate for featured wildlife species must be planted	\$487.50 per acre
	PLANTING GRASSES AND LEGUMES	
PGL	plant seed mixtures in permanent wildlife openings appropriate for featured wildlife species; planting annual food plots is not eligible	\$55.50 per acre
	NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	
NM	application of lime and fertilizer at rates recommended by Division of Forestry, Tennessee Wildlife resources Agency, NRCS, or UT Extension	\$94.50 per acre
	PLANTING TREES AND SHRUBS	
PTS	planting single or mixed species of trees and/or shrubs in permanent wildlife openings	\$0.30 per seedling
	TRANSITION ZONE ESTABLISHMENT	
	thinning pines or hardwoods along field edges to encourage understory herbaceous/grass/shrub development; zones will be 50 to 150 feet wide; only non-commercial material can be removed..	\$82.50 per acre
	WATER SOURCE DEVELOPMENT	
WSD	construction of wildlife watering facilities where a suitable water source is unavailable	\$58.50 per structure

FLEP7 – FOREST Health Practices

Eligible Components: Landowners will be reimbursed for the following components at the level of 75 percent of actual cost (based on cost documents) not to exceed set maximum per unit amounts. Maximum cost-share amount for a FELP 7 practice is \$10,000. The following table indicates the maximum per unit amounts a landowner may receive for each component and its TN FLEP code.

TN FLEP CODE	COMPONENT DESCRIPTION	MAXIMUM PER UNIT
	SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE (SPB) SPOT REMOVAL	
SPB	Cut and leave small, non-merchantable, non-salvageable SPB spots	\$1.00 per tree not to exceed 500 trees
	CROP TREE RELEASE - HARDWOODS	
CTRH	chemical or mechanical release of no more than 100 crop trees per acre	\$82.50 per acre
	CULL TREE REMOVAL - HARDWOODS	
CULR	chemical or mechanical removal of cull trees and trees of undesirable species	\$82.50 per acre